

2007-08 Florida State Schedule/Results

<b>O31</b>	*	<b>West Florida</b>	<b>W, 78-59</b>
<b>N6</b>	*	<b>Valdosta State</b>	<b>W, 87-66</b>
<b>N9</b>		<b>Nicholls State</b>	<b>W, 81-58</b>
<b>N12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Georgia Southern</b>	<b>W, 92-67</b>
N16	2	UAB	W, 78-70
N17	2	Cleveland State	L, 66-69 ot
N18	2	USF	L, 67-68
<b>N20</b>		<b>Georgia State</b>	<b>W, 78-48</b>
N23		at Florida	W, 65-51
<b>N27</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>W, 75-61</b>
<b>N30</b>		<b>Stetson</b>	<b>W, 72-59</b>
<b>D2</b>		<b>Samford</b>	<b>W, 61-45</b>
<b>D8</b>		<b>Maine</b>	<b>W, 95-55</b>
D15	4	vs. Butler	L, 68-79
<b>D18</b>		<b>College of Charleston</b>	<b>W, 66-61</b>
D22		at Providence	L, 95-101
D30	^	at Georgia Tech	W, 66-64
<b>J5</b>		<b>La Salle</b>	<b>W, 81-76</b>
J12	^	at Clemson	L, 85-97 2ot
<b>J16</b>	^	<b>Duke</b>	<b>L, 57-70</b>
J20	^	at Wake Forest	L, 57-74
<b>J23</b>	^	<b>Virginia</b>	<b>W, 69-67</b>
<b>J26</b>	^	<b>NC State</b>	<b>L, 66-69</b>
J29	^	at Virginia Tech	L, 80-89
F3	^	North Carolina	L, 73-84 ot
F6	^	at Miami	W, 62-55
<b>F14</b>	^	<b>Wake Forest</b>	<b>L, 70-78</b>
F16	^	at Maryland	L, 72-82
<b>F19</b>	^	<b>Clemson</b>	<b>W, 64-55</b>
<b>F23</b>	^	<b>Boston College</b>	<b>W, 66-63</b>
F27	^	at NC State	W, 72-62
M4	^	at North Carolina	L, 77-90
<b>M8</b>	^	<b>Miami</b>	<b>W, 75-72 ot</b>
M13	5	vs. Wake Forest	W, 70-60
M14	5	vs. North Carolina	L, 70-82
M18	6	Akron	9:00 p.m.

\* -- exhibition game at Donald L. Tucker Center; ^ -- ACC Game; 1 - Glenn Wilkes Classic at Tallahassee, Fla.; 2 - Glenn Wilkes Classic at Daytona Beach, Fla.; 3 - ACC/Big Ten Challenge at Tallahassee, Fla.; 4 - Wooden Tradition at Indianapolis, Ind.; 5 - ACC Tournament at Charlotte, N.C.; 6 - NIT at Tallahassee, Fla. Games listed in bold are played at the Donald L. Tucker Center in Tallahassee

2007-08 ACC Standings

Team	ACC			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
N. Carolina	14	2	.875	32	2	.941
Duke	13	3	.813	27	5	.844
Clemson	10	6	.625	24	9	.727
Virginia Tech	9	7	.563	19	13	.594
Miami	8	8	.500	22	10	.688
Maryland	8	8	.500	18	14	.563
Ga. Tech	7	9	.438	15	17	.469
W. Forest	7	9	.438	17	14	.548
<b>Florida State</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>.438</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>.576</b>
Virginia	5	11	.313	15	15	.500
Boston Col.	4	12	.250	14	17	.452
NC State	4	12	.250	15	16	.484

Leonard Hamilton's Career Record

School	W	L	Pct.	Years
Career	306	295	.509	1987-Pr.
at Okla. State	56	63	.471	1987-90
at Miami	144	147	.495	1991-00
<b>at Florida State</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>.555</b>	<b>2002-Pr.</b>

FLORIDA STATE SEMINOLES (19-14, 7-9 ACC)

VS.

AKRON ZIPS (23-10, 11-5 MAC)

2008 MASTERCARD NIT TOURNAMENT

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2008; 9:00 P.M.

DONALD L. TUCKER CENTER (12,100)

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ESPN CLASSIC TELEVISION

SEMINOLE / ISP RADIO NETWORK

*"When you talk about Florida State, you have to talk about their senior guards. They start three guards - but the guys I like are Jason Rich and Ralph Mims. These guys put a lot of pressure on the defense and score in a variety of ways"*

*Jason Capel  
Raycom Sports  
March 13, 2008*

FLORIDA STATE PLAYS HOST TO AKRON IN NIT FIRST ROUND

Florida State, which has won an average of 20.3 games in each of the last three seasons, plays host to Akron on Tuesday, March 18 at 9:00 p.m. at the Donald L. Tucker Center in Tallahassee in the first round of the 2008 MasterCard NIT. The Seminoles are the No. 3 seed in the Syracuse region of the four region tournament. Florida State is making its third consecutive appearance in the NIT - the Seminoles were 1-1 in the 2006 event with a victory over Butler (March 17, 67-63) and an overtime loss against South Carolina (March 21, 69-68) and were 2-1 in 2007 with victories over Toledo (March 13, 77-61) and Michigan (March 15, 87-66) before falling at Mississippi State in the quarterfinal round (March 20, 86-71). Florida State's appearance in the 2008 NIT is its seventh in the history of the tournament. The Seminoles are 6-0 in six previous first round games and advanced to the tournament finals in 1997 with victories over Syracuse, Michigan State, West Virginia and Connecticut before falling to Michigan in the championship game. The winner of Tuesday's game between Florida State and Akron advances to the second round to meet the winner of Tuesday night's game between Massachusetts and Stephen F. Austin. As the No. 3 seeded team in their quartet and should the Seminoles defeat Akron, they would travel to play at Massachusetts if the Minutemen win or play host to Stephen F. Austin if the Lumberjacks are victorious.

Florida State's NIT Tournament Appearances

Season	Site	Round	Record	Opponent(s)
1984	Raleigh, N.C.	1	1-0	Florida State 74, NC State 71 (ot)
	Greensboro, N.C.	2	0-1	Pittsburgh 66, Florida State 63
1987	Tallahassee, FL	1	1-0	Florida State 107, Rhode Island 92
	Nashville, TN	2	0-1	Vanderbilt 109, Florida State 92
1997	Syracuse, N.Y.	1	1-0	Florida State 82, Syracuse 67
	Tallahassee, FL	2	1-0	Florida State 68, Michigan State 63
	Morgantown, W.V.	3	1-0	Florida State 76, West Virginia 71
	New York, N.Y.	SF	1-0	Florida State 71, Connecticut 65
	New York, N.Y.	F	0-1	Michigan 82, Florida State 73
2004	Wichita, KS	1	1-0	Florida State 91, Wichita State 84 (2 ot)
	Tallahassee, FL	2	0-1	Iowa State 62, Florida State 59
2006	Tallahassee, FL	1	1-0	Florida State 67, Butler 63
	Tallahassee, FL	2	0-1	South Carolina 69, Florida State 68 (ot)
2007	Tallahassee, FL	1	1-0	Florida State 77, Toledo 61
	Tallahassee, FL	2	2-0	Florida State 87, Michigan 66
	Starkville, MS.	QF	2-1	Mississippi State 86, Florida State 71

SECOND STRAIGHT NIT OPENER AGAINST A MAC TEAM

Florida State plays host to Akron in the first round of the 2008 MasterCard NIT. It marks the second consecutive season the Seminoles will play a Mid-American Conference opponent in the opening round of the NIT. Florida State defeated Toledo, 77-61, in Tallahassee in 2007.

**Florida State Men's Basketball  
In The National Polls**

**Associated Press  
March 10, 2008**

Rk.	Team	07-08 Rec.
1.	<b>North Carolina (52)</b>	<b>29-2</b>
2.	Memphis (13)	30-1
3.	UCLA (5)	28-3
4.	Tennessee (2)	28-3
5.	Kansas	28-3
6.	Texas	26-5
7.	<b>Duke</b>	<b>26-4</b>
8.	Wisconsin	26-4
9.	Georgetown	25-4
10.	Xavier	26-5
11.	Stanford	24-6
12.	<b>Butler</b>	<b>28-3</b>
13.	Louisville	24-7
14.	Notre Dame	24-6
15.	Connecticut	24-7
16.	Drake	28-4
17.	Purdue	24-7
18.	Vanderbilt	25-6
19.	Michigan State	24-7
20.	Gonzaga	25-6
21.	Washington State	23-7
22.	Indiana	25-6
23.	Davidson	25-6
24.	Brigham Young	25-6
25.	Marquette	22-8

**ESPN/USA Today  
March 16, 2008**

Rk.	Team	Points
1.	<b>North Carolina (23)</b>	<b>767</b>
2.	UCLA	735
3.	Memphis	728
4.	Kansas	682
5.	Wisconsin	630
6.	Tennessee	616
7.	Texas	581
8.	Georgetown	538
9.	<b>Duke</b>	<b>535</b>
10.	<b>Butler</b>	<b>499</b>
11.	Stanford	476
12.	Xavier	373
13.	Louisville	358
14.	Drake	310
15.	Notre Dame	309
16.	Vanderbilt	246
17.	Connecticut	239
18.	Purdue	218
19.	Pittsburgh	216
20.	Michigan State	194
21.	Washington State	149
22.	<b>Clemson</b>	<b>123</b>
23.	Davidson	108
24.	Indiana	106
24.	Marquette	106

**Quoting Florida State Basketball**

*"Jason Rich is so tough to guard. If you leave him open he can hit the three; he can post you up inside and then if you come out and guard him he can really go hard to the basket off the dribble."*

*Dan Bonner  
Raycom Sports  
Feb. 16, 2008*

*"Florida State is one of the best defensive teams I've played against in the ACC. They just have a toughness about them."*

*Mike Krzyzewski  
Head Coach, Duke  
Jan. 16, 2008*

**LOOK FOR FLORIDA STATE TO...**

...Defeat Akron and advance to the second round of the post-season NIT for the third consecutive season. The Seminoles defeated Butler in the first round of the 2006 NIT and bet Toledo in the first round of the 2007 NIT;

...Defeat Akron and win its 20<sup>th</sup> game of the season. It would mark the third consecutive that the Seminoles had won at least 20 games in a season and be the first time since the 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 seasons that Florida State had won at least 20 games in three consecutive seasons;

...Defeat Akron and win its sixth consecutive opening round game in the NIT. Florida State has never lost a first round game in the NIT.

**LEONARD HAMILTON IN THE NIT**

Fifth-year Florida State Head Coach Leonard Hamilton has now guided eight different teams at three different schools into the NIT. He has a record of 6-7 in 13 previous NIT games with two wins as the head coach at Oklahoma State and four as the head coach at Florida State. Hamilton guided his second team at Florida State in 2004 to the second round of the NIT, his fourth team in 2006 into the second round of the NIT and his fifth team to the NIT quarterfinals in 2007.

**Leonard Hamilton's NIT Tournament Appearances**

Season	Site	Round	Record	Opponent(s)
1889	Stillwater, OK	1	1-0	Oklahoma State 69, Boise State 55
	Jamaica, N.Y.	2	0-1	St. John's 76, Oklahoma State 64
1990	Tulsa, OK	1	1-0	Oklahoma State 83, Tulsa 74
	Albuquerque, N.M.	2	0-1	New Mexico 90, Oklahoma State 88
1995	State College, PA	1	0-1	Penn State 62, Miami 56
1997	Ann Arbor, MI	1	0-1	Michigan 76, Miami 63
2004	Wichita, KS	1	1-0	Florida State 91, Wichita State 84 (2 ot)
	Tallahassee, FL	2	0-1	Iowa State 62, Florida State 59
2006	Tallahassee, FL	1	1-0	Florida State 67, Butler 63
	Tallahassee, FL	2	0-1	South Carolina 69, Florida State 68 (ot)
2007	Tallahassee, FL	1	1-0	Florida State 77, Toledo 61
	Tallahassee, FL	2	2-0	Florida State 87, Michigan 66
	Starkville, MS.	QF	2-1	Mississippi State 86, Florida State 71

**NOTING THE SEMINOLES IN THE NIT TOURNAMENT...**

...Florida State has played in the NIT six times and has won its first round game each time. The Seminoles defeated NC State to open the 1984 NIT; Rhode Island to open the 1987 NIT; Syracuse to begin the 1997 NIT; Wichita State to start the 2004 NIT; Butler to start the 2006 NIT and Toledo to begin the 2007 NIT;

...Florida State has won eight of its last 12 NIT games with a 4-1 record during the 1987 NIT and a 2-1 record during the 2007 NIT;

...Florida State is 2-1 in overtime games in NIT play. The Seminoles defeated NC State in overtime in their first ever NIT game in 1984 and beat Wichita State in double overtime in 2004. The Seminoles were defeated by South Carolina, 69-68, in overtime in 2006;

...Florida State is 5-2 in home games in the NIT. The Seminoles defeated Rhode Island at home in 1987 and Michigan State at home in 1997 before falling to Iowa State at home in 2004. The Seminoles defeated Butler before falling to South Carolina in the 2006 NIT and defeated both Toledo and Michigan in the 2007 NIT;

...Florida State's longest winning streak in NIT play came during the 1987 Tournament when it advanced to the championship finals with consecutive victories over Syracuse, Michigan State, West Virginia and Connecticut.

**LOOKING INTO THE SEMINOLES RECORD**

Florida State enters the 2008 Mastercard NIT with an overall record of 19-14 and an ACC record of 7-9. It marks the fourth time in the last five seasons that the Seminoles have won at least 19 games and the third consecutive season they have won at least seven ACC games. The Seminoles have won at least 19 games in four of the first six seasons of the Leonard Hamilton era at Florida State. The Seminoles finished with a 13-4 record at home and a winning percentage of .764. It marked the third consecutive season the Seminoles have won at least 75 percent of their home games after recording a 14-3 record at home during the 2006-07 season for a winning percentage of .823 – the third best home winning percentage in school history. The Seminoles finished with a 4-4 record in home conference games marking the third consecutive season the Seminoles have won at least four conference games at home in the Donald L. Tucker Center.

**FLORIDA STATE UNDER LEONARD HAMILTON**

Florida State enters the 2008 Mastercard NIT with an 19-14 record. The Seminoles have a 106-85 record (.555 winning percentage) under sixth-year Head Coach Leonard Hamilton and average 17.7 victories during the first six years of the Hamilton era in Tallahassee. Florida State has won at least 19 games in four of the last six seasons and average 18.4 wins per season since winning 19 games and advancing to the second round of the NIT during the 2004 season.

**Florida State Men's Basketball  
Upcoming Milestones**

**Toney Douglas**  
**Career Points**  
1,421 (current)

**Toney Douglas**  
**Career Points (at Florida State)**  
896 (current)  
+104 (needs)  
1,000

To become the 41<sup>st</sup> player in school history to score 1,000 or more career points

**Toney Douglas**  
**Single-Season Steals**  
90 (current)  
+8 (needs)  
98

To break the all-time single-season steals record – surpassing Sam Cassell (1992-93)

**Jason Rich**  
**Career Points**  
1,308 (current)  
+30 (needs)  
1,338

To move into 16<sup>th</sup> place in scoring in school history surpassing Chuck Graham (1990-94)

**Jason Rich**  
**Career Steals**  
133 (current)  
+4 (needs)  
137

To surpass LaMar Greer (1994-98) and move into 13<sup>th</sup> place on Florida State's all-time career steals list

**Isaiah Swann**  
**Career Points**  
1,053 (current)  
+ 6 (needs)  
1,059

To move into 34<sup>th</sup> place in scoring in school history surpassing Rodney Dobard (90-93)

**Isaiah Swann**  
**Career Steals**  
139 (current)  
+1 (needs)  
140

To surpass Terrell Baker (1997-99) and move into 11<sup>th</sup> place on Florida State's all-time career steals list

**Isaiah Swann**  
**Career 3-Point Field Goals Made**  
173 (current)  
+27 (needs)  
200

To become the fourth player in school history to make 200 or more 3-point field goals

**Ralph Mims**  
**Career Steals**  
124 (current)  
+3 (needs)  
127

To surpass Maurice Myrick (82-85) 17<sup>th</sup> place on Florida State's all-time steals list

**PROBABLE STARTERS FOR FLORIDA STATE**

- F #41 Uche Echefu (9.7 ppg, 7.2 rpg; 24 pts and 12 rebs vs. Clemson, Jan. 12, 2008)  
F #42 Ryan Reid (5.3 ppg, 4.9 rpg; 12 pts and 7 rebs vs. Wake Forest, March 13, 2008)  
G #10 Ralph Mims (11.7 ppg, 1.7 apg; 26 pts and 6 rebs vs. Maryland, Feb. 16, 2008)  
G #23 Toney Douglas (15.6 ppg, 2.7 spg; 28 pts and 5 rebs vs. Miami, Feb. 6, 2008)  
G #25 Jason Rich (14.7 ppg, 4.2 rpg; 27 pts and 3 rebs vs. North Carolina, March 4, 2008)

**...AND TOP RESERVES**

- F #2 Jordan DeMercy (1.3 ppg, 1.4 rpg; 6 pts and 2 asts vs. Georgia State, Nov. 20, 2007)  
F #21 Julian Vaughn (3.1 ppg, 2.4 rpg; 12 pts and 3 rebs vs. Georgia Southern, Nov. 12, 2007)  
F #33 Matt Zitani (1.4 ppg, 1.2 rpg; 5 pts and 1 reb vs. Boston College, Feb. 23, 2008)

**PROBABLE STARTERS FOR AKRON**

- F #21 Jeremiah Wood (13.9 ppg, 7.8 rpg; 23 pts and 7 rebs vs. Kent State, March 9, 2008)  
F #30 Chris McKnight (6.4 ppg, 2.8 rpg; 18 pts and 4 rebs vs. W. Michigan, Feb. 6, 2008)  
F #33 Nate Linehart (8.5 ppg, 4.5 rpg; 19 pts and 10 rebs vs. Ball State, Feb. 9, 2008)  
G #1 Cedrick Middleton (9.7 ppg, 2.1 rpg; 23 pts and 1 reb vs. Wyoming, Dec. 1, 2007)  
G #11 Nick Dials (11.9 ppg, 4.3 apg; 22 pts and 5 rebs vs. Kent State, Jan. 23, 2008)

**TODAY'S OFFICIALS**

Today's officials will be announced at game time.

**FLORIDA STATE VS. AKRON – A SERIES HISTORY**

The Series:	First Meeting
Last Game:	First Meeting
Last Florida State Win:	First Meeting
Last Akron Win:	First Meeting
Last Florida State Win in NIT:	First Meeting
Last Akron Win in NIT:	First Meeting
Current Streak:	First Meeting
Leonard Hamilton vs. Akron:	First Meeting

**FLORIDA STATE VS. THE MAC – THE LAST FOUR GAMES**

<u>March 13, 2007</u>	<u>Dec. 17, 2006</u>	<u>Nov. 27, 2004</u>	<u>Dec. 21, 1974</u>
at Florida State 77	Florida State 71	Florida State 59	at Florida State 67
Toledo 61	vs. Bowling Green 60	Kent State 69	Ohio 60
NIT Tournament	Coors Classic	Corpus Christi Classic	at Tallahassee, Fla.

**2007-08 FLORIDA STATE ROSTER**

No.	Name	Pos.	Hgt.	Wgt.	Yr.	Hometown
2	Jordan DeMercy	F	6-7	190	Fr.	Norcross, Ga.
3	Isaiah Swann	G	6-2	205	Sr.	Gaithersburg, Md.
5	Ben O'Donnell	G	5-9	171	Fr.	Largo, Fla.
10	Ralph Mims	G	6-3	211	Sr.	Pensacola, Fla.
21	Julian Vaughn	F	6-10	245	Fr.	Vienna, Va.
23	Toney Douglas	G	6-1	200	Jr.	Jonesboro, Ga.
24	Jordan Bolton	F	6-5	214	Fr.	Winter Park, Fla.
25	Jason Rich	G	6-3	205	Sr.	Pensacola, Fla.
31	Brian Hoff	G	6-6	195	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla.
32	Solomon Alabi	C	7-1	237	Fr.	Lagos, Nigeria
33	Matt Zitani	F	6-7	228	Gr.	Port St. Lucie, Fla.
41	Uche Echefu	F	6-9	225	Jr.	Lagos, Nigeria
42	Ryan Reid	F	6-9	230	So.	Lauderdale Lakes, Fla.

**FLORIDA STATE VS. THE NIT TEAMS**

Florida State played six teams who are participating in the 2008 MasterCard NIT and have a 3-3 record this season against those teams. The Seminoles have victories over then No. 24 Florida (Nov. 23; 65-51), Minnesota (Nov. 27; 75-61) and UAB (Nov. 16; 78-70) and played one game each against Cleveland State (Nov. 17; 66-69 in overtime), Virginia Tech (Jan. 29; 80-89) and Maryland (Feb. 16; 72-82).

**FLORIDA STATE VS. THE NCAA TEAMS**

Florida State finished the regular season with a 3-6 record against five teams who were selected to play in the 2008 NCAA Tournament. The Seminoles earned victories over Miami (Feb. 6; 62-55), Clemson (Feb. 19; 62-55) and Miami a second time (March 8; 75-72 in overtime) and fell to Butler (Dec. 15; 68-79), Clemson (Jan. 12; 85-97 in double overtime), Duke (Jan. 16; 57-70) and North Carolina three times (Feb. 3; 73-84 in overtime), (March 4; 77-90) and (March 14; 70-82).

**FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE DEFENSE**

Florida State is 10-0 when it holds its opponents under 40 percent shooting from the field. The Seminoles held both Miami (.309 / Feb. 6 and .352 / March 8) and Clemson (.308 / Feb. 19) close to 30 percent shooting from the field in wins over the Hurricanes and Tigers.

**Florida State Men's Basketball  
By The Numbers**

**.801** Junior All-ACC selection Toney Douglas is shooting .801 from the free throw line during his two seasons at Florida State and is currently ranked fifth in school history in the career free throw shooting percentage category.

**1** All-ACC Third-Team selection Toney Douglas is the only player in the ACC with at least 90 steals (90) and at least 90 assists (97) this season.

**5** Graduate student Matt Zitani has started five games this season including the final game of the regular season against Miami on March 8. He started a total of zero games during the first two seasons of his Seminole career.

**7** Sophomore Ryan Reid made a career-high seven consecutive free throws in the Seminoles' overtime victory over Miami on March 8. He made six free throws in the final 43 seconds of regulation to help send the game into overtime.

**8** Senior guard Ralph Mims has scored in double figures in eight consecutive games. He has scored in doubles figures in every game for the Seminoles since totaling a career-high 26 points against Maryland on Feb. 16.

**9** Freshman Julian Vaughn has blocked 20 shots and ranks second among his Seminole teammates. His 20 blocked shots are tied for the ninth highest single-season total by a Florida State freshman in school history.

**15/15** Freshman forward Jordan DeMercy has earned 15 assists and 15 steals in his first collegiate season.

**12** Senior guard Ralph Mims has 12 blocked shots this season – he blocked a total of 12 shots during the first three years of his career.

**19** Florida State is undefeated, 19-0, when it outscores its opponent.

**22.5** Senior guard Jason Rich averaged 22.5 points scored in two games in the ACC Tournament. He scored 22 points in the Seminoles' first round victory over Wake Forest and 23 in the quarterfinal round against North Carolina.

**67** Junior forward Uche Echefu has started 67 of the last 68 games in the last two seasons. His only non-starting assignment in the last two seasons came on senior day this season as Matt Zitani earned the fifth start of his career.

**129** Senior guard Jason Rich will tie the school record for games played with 129 on Tuesday against Akron. He will move into a tie for first place in school history with Andrew Wilson (2001-06) who is currently a coach at the College of Charleston.

**FLORIDA STATE RANKED FIFTH NATIONALLY IN FREE THROW SHOOTING**

Florida State continues to prove itself as one of the most accurate free throw shooting teams in the nation as it enters the 2008 NIT Tournament. The Seminoles have made 419 free throws this season and enter the NIT Tournament ranked **FIRST IN THE ACC AND FIFTH IN THE NATION IN FREE THROW SHOOTING PERCENTAGE**. The Seminoles have shot better than 70 percent from the line in each of the last three seasons and led the ACC with a school record .758 mark from the line during the 2006-07 season.

**Seminole Among National Free Throw Leaders (Through games of March 60, 2008)**

Rank	School	FTM	FTA	FT Pct.	Upcoming Season
1.	Utah State	503	660	.792	NIT
2.	California	507	650	.780	NIT
3.	UC Davis	401	515	.779	Season Complete
4.	IUPUI	498	642	.776	Season Complete
<b>5.</b>	<b>Florida State</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>.770</b>	<b>NIT</b>

**SEMINOLES APPROACH 300 MARKS FOR STEALS**

Led by All-ACC Third-Team selection Toney Douglas who leads the ACC with a career-high 90 steals, Florida State is ranked second in the ACC with 288 steals and an 8.73 steals per game average. The Seminoles earned a total of 15 steals in two ACC games last week and have earned at least eight steals in six of the last 10 games. The Seminoles need only 12 steals to reach the 300 steals mark for the season.

**Seminole's Top Steals Totals**

Season	Steals	Games	SPG	Notes
1992-93	322	35	9.20	Sam Cassell led team with 97 steals
2003-04	291	33	8.81	Tim Pickett led team with 82 steals
1991-92	290	32	9.09	Charlie Ward led team with 75 steals
<b>2007-08</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>8.72</b>	<b>Toney Douglas leads team with 90 steals</b>

**SEMINOLES BLOCKING SHOTS**

Florida State has blocked at least one shot in each of its 33 games this season and has blocked a total of 127 shots this season. The Seminoles' team total of 127 blocked shots is the most blocked shots by the Seminoles since sending back 130 shots during the 2002-03 season.

**SEMINOLES CONNECTING FROM THE BONUSPHERE**

Florida State enters Tuesday's game against Akron in the first round of the 2008 MasterCard NIT ranked fourth in the ACC with 230 3-point shots made. The Seminoles are averaging nearly 7.0 3-point shots made per game this season.

**Seminole's Top 3-Point Field Goals Made Total**

Season	3FGM	G	3FGM/Game	Notes
2003-04	296	33	8.97	Tim Pickett led team with 110 3FGM
2006-07	237	35	6.77	Isaiah Swann led team with 68 3FGM
2007-08	230	33	6.97	Toney Douglas leads team with 63 3FGM

**SEMINOLES' MINUTES PLAYED CHART**

Led by senior guard Ralph Mims' double figure increase in minutes played, seven of the Seminole players have realized an increase in their minutes played this season as compared to the 2006-07 season. A trio of Florida State players – Toney Douglas (35.4 mpg), Jason Rich (33.7 mpg) and Ralph Mims (30.5 mpg) – are averaging more than 30 minutes played per game.

**Seminole Logging Major Minutes**

Player	06-07 Mins./Avg	07-08 Mins./Avg	Difference
Ralph Mims	680/19.4	1006/30.5	+11.1 MPG
Uche Echefu	734/21.0	954/28.9	+7.9 MPG
Ryan Reid	563/16.1	567/23.6	+7.5 MPG
Toney Douglas	865/28.8	1,169/35.4	+6.6 MPG
Matt Zitani	24/2.0	186/7.4	+5.4 MPG
Jason Rich	1,047/29.9	1,113/33.7	+3.8 MPG
Brian Hoff	23/2.1	50/2.9	+0.8 MPG

**The Inside Scoop  
By Toney Douglas**

"My preparation for a game begins long before the tip-off; long before the pre-game meal and even before our team dinner on the night before a game. I have always believed that I need to prepare both my body and my mind to be at my best on game day. In order to prepare myself, I have always followed a regimen of preparation - or superstitions if that's what you want to call them.

One of the great traditions that Coach Hamilton has for our team is that we eat a team dinner the night before every game. With our first game in the NIT coming Tuesday against Akron, our team dinner will be on campus. Eating together not only gives us time to be together as a team off the court but allows us to put fuel in our bodies that we can utilize during the game the next day.

Every night before a game I make sure to drink at least five bottles of water in order to keep myself hydrated. Our trainer, Sam Lunt, has always taught us that preparation the night before a game is just as important as our preparation on game day. After hydrating myself I get a good 10-minute stretch in my room before getting treatment with our training staff.

While I am preparing my body for the game I am also beginning to prepare my mind for our opponent. I begin to visualize the game in my head - especially my individual match-up. For a game against Wake Forest I have two games to think about from the regular season. I have watched a lot of film on our first two games against them so I am going over in my mind what I want to do differently and most importantly better.

Before I go to bed, I talk to my brother Harry for at least 10 minutes. Often times we talk but sometimes we text back and forth. Harry is my best friend and my biggest fan. He is also an athlete and right now he is preparing for the NFL Draft. That's probably my most important pre-game ritual. He gives his speech to his little brother telling me to play my best and be a leader on the court. Most importantly, he tells me to make sure we win the game.

On the day of the game I continue to take care of my body. When I wake up and go to pre-game meal I eat one banana, one orange and as many pineapple slices as I can.

Before we leave the hotel to go to the gym, I read my bible and give God the glory for every successful thing that will happen to me during the day and in the game. Without him, my success as an individual and our success as a team would never come true. He is always my helper and provider in life."

*"I'm just trying to make my teammates better. Whatever I have to do for us to be successful, I'm going to do. If that's scoring, distributing the ball, playing defense; whatever it takes, I'm going to do."*

*Toney Douglas*

**DOUGLAS EARNS ALL-ACC THIRD-TEAM HONORS**

Junior guard Toney Douglas, who leads the ACC in steals (career-high 2.72 spg) and ranks ninth in the league in scoring (15.6 ppg), earned All-ACC Third-Team Honors and All-ACC Defensive team honors as announced by the Atlantic Coast Sports Media Association. It marks the second time Douglas has earned all-conference honors during his career after he was named to the All-SEC Third Team as a freshman during the 2004-05 season. Douglas' selection to the All-ACC Third-Team marks the third consecutive season that a Florida State player has been named to the All-ACC first, second or third team. All-American Al Thornton was an All-ACC First-Team selection and the ACC Player of the Year runner-up in 2008 and an All-ACC Second-Team selection in 2007.

**DOUGLAS IS THE ACC'S CHIEF THIEF**

All-ACC Third-Team selection Toney Douglas enters Tuesday's game against Akron as the ACC's Chief Thief. He has earned a career-high 90 steals and has a career-high 2.72 steals per game average this season. Douglas has earned at least one steal in 30 consecutive games - every Seminole game dating back to Nov. 17, 2007 against Cleveland State.

**Douglas' Steals Averages**

Games	S	G	SPG	Notes
Season	90	33	2.72	The ACC leader - 28 steals ahead of No. 2
ACC	48	16	3.00	The ACC leader - 16 steals ahead of No. 2
Non-Conf	42	17	2.47	At least one steals in 15 of 17 games
Last 5 Games	10	5	2.0	3 steals vs. Miami and N. Carolina
Last 10 Games	25	10	2.5	4 steals at Maryland / at least 3 steals in 6 games
Last 15 Games	44	14	2.9	Season-high tying six steals against Virginia

**Seminoles' All-Time Steals Record**

Rank	Player, Year	Steals
1.	Sam Cassell, 1993	97
2.	<b>Toney Douglas, 2008</b>	<b>90</b>

**Seminoles' All-Time Steals Per Game Record**

Rank	Player, Year	SPG
1.	Dean Shaffer, 1985	2.89
2.	Tim Pickett, 2003	2.827
3.	<b>Toney Douglas, 2008</b>	<b>2.727</b>

**NOTING DOUGLAS' STEALS NUMBERS...**

...He has 168 career steals in 94 career games for a 1.78 steals per game average for every game of his career;

...He has 125 steals in 63 games as a Seminole. He averages 1.98 steals per game in every game he has played as a Seminole.

**DOUGLAS APPROACHING CAREER-HIGH SCORING TOTAL**

All-ACC Third-Team selection Toney Douglas has scored 516 points and averages 15.6 points per game this season. His 516 point total marks the second time during his career that he has scored at least 500 points in a single-season. Douglas scored a single-season career-high 525 points as a freshman at Auburn during the 2004-05 season. He needs only 10 points to establish a new personal single-season scoring total.

**Douglas' Scoring Progression**

Season	Points	Games	PPG	Notes
2004-05	525	31	16.9	The nation's second-leading freshman scorer
2006-07	380	30	12.7	Ranked second on the team
2007-08	516	33	15.6	Florida State's leading scorer
Totals	<u>1,421</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>15.1</u>	<u>Double figure scoring in 34 of last 35 games</u>
at Auburn	525	31	16.9	The fourth all-time leading freshman scorer at Auburn
at Florida State	896	63	14.2	Needs only 104 points to reach 1,000 at FSU

**DOUGLAS RANKED EIGHTH NATIONALLY IN STEALS**

All-ACC Third-Team selection Toney Douglas - the ACC's Chief Thief - enters the 2008 NIT Tournament ranked sixth in the nation in total steals with a career-high 90 and sixth in the nation with his career-high 2.72 steals per game average. His 90 steals are only eight from breaking the all-time school record of 97 by Sam Cassell during the 1992-93 season.

**National Division I Steals Leaders (As of March 17, 2008)**

Rank	Player	School	Steals	SPG	Notes
1.	Devan Downey	South Carolina	103	3.20	Season Complete
2.	Chris Gaynor	Winthrop	96	2.91	NCAA Tournament
3.	Lester Hudson	Tenn.-Martin	94	2.88	Season Complete
4.	Tony Lee	Robert Morris	93	2.81	NIT Tournament
	Devin Gibson	Texas-San Antonio	93	3.30	NCAA Tournament
6.	<b>Toney Douglas</b>	<b>Florida State</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>2.72</b>	<b>NIT Tournament</b>

## Jason Rich Leaves Fresh Footprints For Future Generations To Follow

While growing up in Pensacola, Fla. as the youngest of nine children, Jason Rich picked up the game of basketball from his brothers, not knowing that it would eventually earn him a scholarship to the college of his choice.

"I started playing basketball when I was about six years old," said Rich. "I've got three older brothers and that kind of helped me. They taught me in the backyard, so that's where I was able to pick it up."

While in middle school, he led his middle school team to the championship game twice, both times facing current teammate Ralph Mims.

As Rich says with a smile, "Ralph and I lived on different sides of town, but we played on the same teams and sometimes against each other. His middle school team beat us in the championship game two years in a row; I wasn't too happy about that, but we've known each other for a long time and have always had a good relationship"

Rich not only "picked-up" the sport, but excelled immensely.

Rich went on to play at Dr. Phillips High School, a top-notch basketball school that has done very well over the past decade.

"Playing at DP was a big difference for me because that was a big-time basketball program," said the Florida State senior. "They were one of the only schools in the state of Florida with at least I think thirteen consecutive years of 20-game seasons. They're a great academic school and they took care of me mostly."

While at Dr. Phillips, Rich earned All-State First-Team honors as a senior, was named All-State First-Team by Florida Sports Writer's Association as a junior and senior, was an All-Central Florida selection by *Orlando Sentinel*, and earned All-Metro First-Team honors as a senior. Rich led Dr. Phillips to the No. 1 ranking in the state during senior season; it finished the season as the No. 7 ranked team in the state.

With all of the accolades he received it's was no surprise that Rich was offered numerous Division 1 scholarships.

"I was offered by plenty of schools, but my top five were Indiana, Kentucky, Southern Cal, Georgia Tech, and Florida State," he said. "It came down to Florida State and Kentucky, but the reason I chose to be here was that Kentucky has already established itself as Kentucky. I felt like Coach Hamilton and his staff and the players he was getting were going to be able to turn this place around put it in the right direction and I wanted to be part of that."

(Continued on Page 7)

## DOUGLAS FROM THE BONUSPHERE

All-ACC Third-Team selection has made a team-leading a career-high tying 62 3-point field goals this season. He has made as many as he made during his freshman season in 31 games at Auburn (62) and twice as many as he made during his first season at Florida State (31) during the 2006-07 season.

### Douglas' 3-Point Progression

Season	3FGM	3FGA	Pct.	Notes
2004-05	62	166	.373	Auburn's leader from the bonusphere
2006-07	31	78	.397	Third on FSU from the bonusphere
2007-08	<u>62</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>.363</u>	Florida State's leader from the bonusphere
Totals	155	415	.373	Averages 1.6 3FGM per game for his career
At Auburn	62	166	.373	Averaged 2.0 3FGM as a freshman
At Florida State	93	249	.373	Averages 1.5 3FGM in two seasons at FSU

## RICH TO TIE SCHOOL RECORD FOR GAMES PLAYED

Senior guard Jason Rich will play in his school-record tying 129<sup>th</sup> career game against Akron in the first round of the 2008 Nit Tournament. His current total of 128 games played ranks as the second highest number of games played in school history – he needs only two more games played to establish the all-time school record for career games played.

### Florida State's Career Games Played Record

Rank	Player	Years	Gms Pld.	Notes
1.	Andrew Wilson	2001-06	129	Played parts of six different seasons
2.	<b>Jason Rich</b>	<b>2005-Pr.</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>Will play in his third postseason tournament</b>
3.	<b>Ralph Mims</b>	<b>2005-Pr.</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>Will play in his third postseason tournament</b>
4.	Al Thornton	2003-07	124	Played in three postseason tournaments
5.	Todd Galloway	2003-06	123	Played in two postseason tournaments

## RICH IN HIS LAST FIVE GAMES...

...He has scored at least 21 points in four of his last five games and is averaging 21.8 points per since scoring 21 points in the Seminoles' victory over NC State on Feb. 27. He has scored 109 points in the last five games;

...He is shooting .481 from the field and has made 39 of 81 shots from the field since Feb. 27. He made nine field goals in three different games – vs. Wake Forest in the ACC Tournament and twice against North Carolina;

...He is shooting .444 from the 3-point line and has made at least one shot from the bonusphere in each of the last five games. He was five-of-11 from the 3-point line (.455) in two games during the ACC Tournament;

...He is shooting .821 from the free throw line and has made 23 of his last 28 free throw attempts. He made his career-high of eight free throws in the Seminoles' game at North Carolina on March 4;

...He is averaging 2.2 assists (11 total assists) and 1.4 steals (seven total steals) since a three assist and two steal performance against NC State on Feb. 27.

## RICH UPPING HIS CAREER SCORING TOTAL

Senior guard Jason Rich has scored 1,308 career points and ranks 17<sup>th</sup> in school history in career scoring. He is only the 17<sup>th</sup> player in school history to score 1,300 or more career points. Rich enters Tuesday's game against Akron with 485 points and career-high 14.7 points per game average. He needs only 15 points to reach the 500 points plateau in a single season for the first time in his career.

### Rich's Scoring Progression

Season	Pts	Games	PPG	Notes
2004-05	163	30	5.4	Seventh on the team in scoring
2005-06	300	30	10.0	Third on the team in scoring
2006-07	360	35	10.3	Tied for third on the team in scoring
2007-08	<u>485</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>14.7</u>	<u>Second on the team in scoring</u>
Totals	1,308	128	10.2	17 <sup>th</sup> in school history in scoring
Last 2 Years	845	68	12.4	65 percent of points in last two seasons
First 2 Years	463	60	7.7	35 percent of points in first two season

## RICH STEALING

Senior guard Jason Rich has 133 steals in 128 career games for a 1.04 steals per game average **FOR HIS ENTIRE CAREER AT FLORIDA STATE.**

## JORDAN DEMERCY IN HIS LAST SIX GAMES...

...Has scored 13 points and is averaging 2.2 points per game. He scored 24 points in his first 24 games of the season for a 1.0 points per game average;

...Has pulled down 12 rebounds for a 2.0 rebounds per game average. He pulled down 29 rebounds in his first 24 games for a 1.2 rebounds per game average;

...He has played in 81 minutes for a 13.5 minutes per game average. He played in 200 minutes in his first 24 games for an 8.3 minutes played per game average.

## Jason Rich – Leaving Fresh Footprints

(continued from page 6)

Rich has been one of the Seminoles' most consistent players throughout his career at Florida State. He hopes that he will be able to use his talents, as well as those of his teammates to win an ACC Championship and get to the NCAA Tournament.

"I think this is by far one of the best teams since I've been here," said Rich. "We're very balanced and we've never had both 6'10" and 7' kids out there capable of putting up good numbers at the same time."

However, amidst Rich's achievements on the court, it is his off-court life that is even more incredible.

"I have four older brothers and four older sisters; I'm the baby of nine and I'm the only one to play college ball and I'll be the first one to graduate from college."

On the court, he strives to emulate Kobe Bryant and his dedication.

"I love [Bryant's] work ethic and I love his killer instinct and his drive to get better; he works so hard," said Rich. "The thing is, he's so talented, yet he still works hard and still strives to be the best. That's a great attitude to have and that's why I really look up to him."

Off the court, he attempts to return the beginnings of a basketball career to young kids by coaching and teaching basketball.

"I've done plenty of kids' camps and I've always liked that because basketball is a game that is of the time that you're in right now," said the 6'3" senior. "If you teach the fundamentals of the game, that's where you're going to end up starting from, and I like being the one to establish those so they can move forward from there."

While not coaching, practicing, or playing, Rich continues to work toward a degree in social science, although he would prefer an NBA career.

"The more I get into it, the more I've been interested in understanding gender and race, how they're different; how they affect different situations," said Rich. "As far as a career, NBA basketball would be my first choice, but I kind of hope to take my social science degree and incorporate it with sports in some way."

Although Rich has always been at the top of the basketball world he is paving new roads for his family and society: first to graduate from college and help establish new talent for others to have similar opportunities to play college and even in the NBA. Both of these are more rewarding than any trophy he will ever receive.

By Justin Casserly  
Florida State Sports Information  
Student Intern

## MIMS STEPPING UP AS ONE OF THE SEMINOLES' TOP SCORERS

Senior guard Ralph Mims, who has started 11 straight games, enters Tuesday's game having scored a career-high 385 points. His 11.7 points per game scoring average is more than eight full points more than his scoring average of 3.9 points per game entering this season. Mims has scored more points this season (385 / 11.7 ppg) than he did during the first three seasons of his career (366 / 3.9 ppg).

## RALPH MIMS' SCORING OUTBURST IN THE LAST 8 GAMES...

...He has scored in double figures in eight consecutive games and is averaging 16.0 points per game since scoring his career-high of 26 points against Maryland on Feb. 16. He also scored 25 points in the Seminoles' overtime victory over Miami on March 8 in Tallahassee;

...He is shooting .860 from the free throw line and has made 37 of his last 43 shots from the line. He made 23 consecutive free throws from Feb. 14 against Wake Forest through Feb. 27 against NC State;

...He has 10 steals and is averaging 1.3 steals per game since earning four steals against Maryland on Feb. 16.

## MIMS MAKING HIS MARK IN THE STEALS COLUMN

Senior guard Ralph Mims enters Tuesday's game against Akron with a single-season career-high 55 steals. He has 124 steals in 127 career games played for a 0.98 career steals per game average. Mims's is having such a great year stealing the basketball from the Seminoles' opponents that he is averaging one full steal more per game this season than he did during the first three years of his career.

## Mims' Steals Progression

Years	Steals	Game	SPG
This Year	55	33	1.7
First 3 Years	<u>69</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>0.7</u>
Improvement			+1.0 spg

## VAUGHN PLAYING HIS BEST BASKETBALL

Freshman Julian Vaughn is rounding into his best playing shape and playing the best basketball of his first collegiate season in the month of March. He played well in the ACC Tournament as he averaged 6.0 points and 11.0 minutes played per game in two games during the event in Charlotte. Vaughn made all five of his field goal attempts and added a blocked shot against North Carolina in the quarterfinals of the Tournament.

## VAUGHN IN HIS LAST FOUR GAMES...

...He has scored 18 points and is averaging 4.5 points per game; he is shooting .700 from the field and has made seven of his last 10 field goal attempts and he has played 59 minutes for an average of 12.3 minutes played per game.

## ZITANI EARNS PRESTIGIOUS BRADLEY AWARD FOR SPIRIT AND COURAGE

Seminole graduate student Matt Zitani was presented with the Bob Bradley Spirit and Courage Award at the ACC Tournament as presented by the ACC and the Atlantic Coast Sports Media Association. The award is named in honor of the late Clemson University sports information director whose service to the ACC and the media will be forever remembered and appreciated. Bob Bradley passed away in October 2000 after a three-year battle with bone cancer that included more than 100 radiation treatments. Throughout that period of time, he continued to serve as SID Emeritus at Clemson, working events at home and away, and representing the Tigers in his own unique style and grace. The Bradley Award will be presented annually, in conjunction with the ACC Office, to a male or female basketball player, coach or team administrator who has overcome serious injury, illness or significant adversity in life to become a valuable contributor to his/her program and university. Zitani has recovered from surgery from a brain tumor in 2003 and has earned a scholarship to play basketball at Florida State.

## MATT ZITANI BY THE NUMBERS...

...He has made a single-season career-high seven 3-point field goals this season – he made a total of zero during the first two years of his career;

...He has a total of seven assists this season including one each in consecutive games against Maryland (Feb. 16), Clemson (Feb. 19) and Boston College (Feb. 27) – he had a total of zero during the first two years of his career;

...He has a total of five steals this season including one against Wake Forest in the NCAA Tournament – he had a total of zero during the first two years of his career;

...He has made a total of five starts this season (in victories at Georgia Tech, La Salle and Miami and in games against Clemson and Duke) – he was not in the starting line-up for any games during the first two years of his career;

...He has played 17 ACC games this season after playing in three ACC games during the first two years of his career;

...He has played in 186 minutes (7.4 minutes per game) this season after playing in a total of 34 minutes during the first two years of his career. He has more than quadrupled his playing time this season as compared to the first two seasons of his career.

### **Mims Prepared Himself For His Senior Season**

Ralph Mims could have mailed in his senior season. He could have taken the summer off, done what he had to do to get his mind and his body in shape for the marathon that is a college basketball season, shown up for practice on a daily basis, been a solid teammate and picked up a couple of awards at the team banquet in April.

After all, Mims was going to earn a good deal of playing time, score a handful of points, help the Seminoles win 20 games for the third consecutive season and earn his degree in social science.

But that's not how Mims was raised.

Instead, he was the Seminoles' hardest workers during the hot summer months. He prepared his mind and his body as hard as he ever had for the grueling season, made working hard in practice the rule rather than the exception, and became a leader by example for his teammates.

For his efforts, Mims finds himself enjoying the best season of his four-year career at Florida State. He is in the starting line-up; he is averaging in double figures in scoring for the first time in his career and has been one of the Seminoles' most consistent players both on and off the court. Mims has worked harder this season than he has during his entire career and is coming closer to reaching his goals as a senior than he ever thought was possible.

"I'm having a good time playing the game of basketball," said Mims. "The game of basketball has been such a big part of my life for such a long time and I really wanted to enjoy my senior season. We all have to listen to our coaches, work together and work hard. We are talented enough as a team, that if we pull together and work hard in every practice and on every possession in every game, that we can be as successful as any team in Florida State history."

Mims has certainly worked as hard as any player on the team to help the Seminoles be successful this season.

Mims is averaging a career-high 10.9 points scored per game through the first 27 games of the season. He is averaging double figures scored for the entire season (10.9 ppg) and in ACC games only (11.3 ppg) after entering the 2007-08 the season averaging 3.9 points per game during his first three seasons as a Seminoles. He has nearly tripled his scoring average as a senior. Additionally, Mims has scored in double figures in 12 games this season after scoring in double figures in eight games during the first three seasons of his career and has scored in double figures in five ACC games this season as compared to twice during the first three years of his career.

To read the entire story please log onto [seminoles.com](http://seminoles.com)

### **ECHEFU DOUBLES HIS PLEASURE AGAINST NC STATE**

Junior forward Uche Echefu scored the sixth double-double of his career with 12 points and 10 rebounds in the Seminoles' victory over NC State (Feb. 27). He has recorded a single-season career-high five double-doubles this season with each of his last three coming against ACC competition. Echefu scored his scored high of 24 points and pulled down his career-high of 12 rebounds with a double-double against Clemson on Jan. 12, 2008.

#### **Echefu's Double-Doubles**

<b>Opponent</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Pts</b>	<b>Rebs.</b>
High Point	Dec. 18, 2006	11	12
Cleveland State	Nov. 17, 2007	13	10
at Providence	Dec. 22, 2007	16	11
at Clemson	Jan. 12, 2008	24	12
at Wake Forest	Jan. 20, 2008	13	11
at NC State	Feb. 27, 2008	12	10

### **ECHEFU RANKED EIGHTH IN THE ACC IN FREE THROW SHOOTING**

Junior forward Uche Echefu was a perfect seven-of-seven from the free throw line (four-of-four in the final 46 seconds of the game) in the Seminoles' victory over NC State (Feb. 27). He enters the 2008 NIT Tournament shooting a career-high and team leading .810 from the line. Echefu is ranked eighth in the ACC in free throw shooting percentage. He has made more free throws this season (102) than he made during the first two seasons of his career (70).

### **ECHEFU ON THE BLOCKS**

Junior forward Uche Echefu has blocked more shots this season (31) than he did during the first two seasons of his career (23). His 54 blocked shots for his career has his ranked tied for 20<sup>th</sup> in school history.

### **REID'S HIGHLIGHT'S FROM HIS PERFORMANCE AGAINST MIAMI**

...He tied his career-high with 11 points to mark the season-high third time he has scored in double figures this season. He scored in double figures once as a freshman;

...He made his career-high of seven free throws in a career-high nine attempts. He made a career-best six consecutive free throws in the last 4:31 of the game with the outcome still in doubt;

...He scored the first basket in the overtime session to give Florida State a 68-66 lead. The game would be tied but the Seminoles did not trail from that point on and won the game 75-72.

### **REID IN HIS LAST THREE GAMES...**

...He has scored 27 points and is averaging 9.0 points scored per game as compared to his 5.3 points per game scoring average for the entire season; He has pulled down 16 rebounds and is averaging 5.3 rebounds per game as compared to his 4.9 rebounds per game average for the entire season; he has made 11 of his last 16 free throws to increase his free throw shooting percentage to a career-high .667 entering the 2008 MasterCard NIT.

### **REID'S INCREASED STATISTICS...**

...Sophomore Ryan Reid has 18 steals this season – double his total of nine as a freshman; he has blocked 16 shots in 24 games – as many blocked shots as he recorded in 35 games as a freshman during the 2006-07 season; he has pulled down 117 rebounds in 33 games this season – more than he pulled down in 35 games during the 2006-07 season (113).

### **HAMILTON SIGNS ANOTHER NATIONALLY RANKED RECRUITING CLASS**

Florida State men's basketball coach Leonard Hamilton has signed another nationally ranked recruiting class as he continues to transform his Seminole program into one of the top teams in the ACC and the nation. He announced the signing of guard Deividas Dulkys (Lithuania/Henderson (NV) Findlay Prep), forward Xavier Gibson (Dothan, Ala./Northview), guard Pierre Jordan (Dunwoody, Ga./Dunwoody), guard Luke Loucks (Clearwater, Fla./Clearwater) and forward Chris Singleton (Dunwoody, Ga./Dunwoody) to National Letters of Intent to play basketball at Florida State. "We are very, very happy to welcome this group of young men into our program," said Hamilton. "Individually they are all very talented players who are team orientated and who will fit in well with our current players. Collectively they are a group who will work together well and help us raise the level of play on our team and help us continue to achieve our goal of becoming a program of significance on the national level."

### **SEMINOLES SIGNEE NAMED A MCDONALD'S ALL-AMERICAN**

Dunwoody High (Ga.) senior Chris Singleton, who signed with Florida State during the early signing period, has been named a McDonald's All-American and will play in the prestigious all-star game on March 26 in Milwaukee. The 6-foot-9 star forward becomes the first Seminole signee to be chosen since Von Wafer in 2003. Singleton becomes the eighth McDonald's All-American to sign with the Seminoles, joining David White (1987), Doug Edwards (1989), LaMarr Greer (1994), Corey Louis (1994), Randall Jackson (1995), Anthony Richardson (2001) and Wafer (2003). A ninth, Irving Thomas (1985), originally signed with Kentucky before transferring to Florida State.